THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Drugs Sold by Generic Name

352. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Health Organisation has directed that the drugs should be sold by their generic name;

(b) whether the Government have decided to subscribe to this directive and if so, the reasons for pharmaceutical companies selling the same drugs under their own name; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take to curb this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE : (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a), do not arise.

[Translation]

Vacancies in Armed Forces

353. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :
SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts are lying vacant in different cadres of the defence forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The vacancy position for three services is given below :

	Officers	JCOs/ORs/Airmen
Army	12,972	55,263
Navy	690	2,782
Air Force	1,045	5,876

(c) In the case of Army, whether the magnitude of vacancy is large, the Government has decided to implement a project for the 'Image Projection of Army' with the help of professional Media agencies to highlight the unique and positive features of Army as a fulfilling career to attract potential soldiers to join army. In the case of Navy and Air Force the Government is making all out efforts to encourage induction of young people in Navy and Air Force giving greater publicity in newspapers and media in order to get the best.

[English]

Shortage of Accommodation for Defence Personnel

354. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of accommodation in Delhi/New Delhi areas for defence personnel;

(b) if so, whether rents have gone up in Delhi so high as to force officers and men to live most unhygienic conditions;

(c) if so, whether rental ceilings were last revised in April 1988;

(d) if so, whether the present ceilings in 'A' class cities are so low that it is hardly possible for them to meet the expenditure involved; and

(e) if so, by when the rental ceilings are likely to be revised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e) There is a shortage of residential accommodation for service personnel in Delhi/New Delhi. However the service HQrs. have been authorised to hire private accommodation for different categories of the service officers at rental ceiling prescribed for the purpose which was last revised in April, 1988 on the basis of the recommendations of the IVth Pay Commission. The existing rental ceilings for hiring accommodation at Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta for Brigadier and above is Rs. 2100/-, Major to Colonel is Rs. 1900/-, Captain and below is 1800/- JCOs is Rs. 750/- and for NCOs and ORs is Rs. 500/-. The scales are likely to be revised on the recommendations of the Vth Pay Commission.

Agency Charges for Works on National Highways

355. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a request from Government of Maharashtra for increase in agency charges for original/maintenance and repair works relating to national highways has been pending for more than a decade with the Union Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

ADB Assistance for NH

356. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to approach the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank for getting assistance for development of National Highways;

(b) if so, whether feasibility report for the development of National Highways has been prepared;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the National Highways that will be undertaken with the help of the above mentioned financial institutions and the funds required for the purpose; and

(d) the probable assistance likely to be received from World Bank and ADB for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) Based on pre-feasibility studies, there is a proposal for seeking World Bank loan assistance for widening to four lanes and stengthening of existing two lanes of Agra-Barwa Adda section of National Highway-2 and Madras-Trichy section of NH-45.

(d) It is too early to indicate the amount of loan assistance likely to be received for the purpose.

Clearance of Irrigation Project in Andhra Pradesh

357. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh had forwarded a number of irrigation projects to the Union Government for its clearance;

(b) if so, the number of projects cleared so far and the number of projects still pending;

(c) the reasons for not clearing the pending projects so far; and

(d) the target date for clearance of the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) During the last five years (since April, 1992) 5 (five) medium projects of Andhra Pradesh have been given investment clearance by the Planning Commission. 7 (Seven) Major Projects and 2 (two) Medium Projects have been found acceptable by the Technical Advisory Committee subject to certain observations and on two Major projects, the State Government is required to sort out various techno-economic issues. 10 (Ten) Major and 8 (Eight) Medium projects have been sent back to the State Government for various reasons such as resolution of inter-state issues, establishment of water availability on long term basis, basic deficiencies in project planning etc.

(d) The clearance of projects depends upon how soon the State Government is able to comply with the observations of the appraising agencies and cotains clearances from the Ministry of Environment & Forests from environment & forests angles and from Ministry of Welfare on rehabilitation and resettlement aspects.

Bridges at Beas and Parvati Rivers

358. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals for construction of two bridges *i.e.* one near Ramsheela on river Beas and other at Zia on river Parvati are pending for long time;

(b) if so, the steps taken to complete construction of these bridges; and

(c) the allocation made year-wise for the last three years and funds utilised and physical targets achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) The proposals for construction of two bridges *i.e.* one near Ramsheela on river Beas and other at Zia on river Parvati are included in construction of Kullu bypass, which has been sanctioned for Rs. 19.3158 crores. Feasibility studies and preliminary designs of the bridges have been completed. Actions for inviting tenders are in advanced stage.

Fund for these bridges are included in the overall allocations for the State of Himachal Pradesh which are as under during the last three years :

1994-95	—	Rs. 13.5 crores
1995-96	—	Rs. 16.0 crores
1996-97	—	Rs. 12.0 crores

Improvement in Teaching and Treatment Facilities

359. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala regarding the improvement in the existing teaching and treatment facilities in the medical colleges in the State; and

(b) if so the details thereof and steps taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.